

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended ) A biological pure isolate comprising *Arthrobacter* FERM BP-6444 having activity for decomposing a polyester containing an aromatic moiety.

22. (Currently Amended) The biological pure isolate comprising *Arthrobacter* FERM BP-6444 as claimed in claim 21, wherein the polyester is a homopolymer or copolymer of an alkylene terephthalate.

23. (Currently Amended) The biological pure isolate comprising *Arthrobacter* FERM BP-6444 as claimed in claim 22, wherein the alkylene terephthalate is selected from the group consisting of ethylene terephthalate, propylene terephthalate and butylene terephthalate.